

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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TO :

DATE: 28 May 1958

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FROM :

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SUBJECT: Evaluation of [REDACTED] and M/AG Support [REDACTED]

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I. Value of [REDACTED] Reports - General

25X1A2g [REDACTED] reports are currently of more importance for East Germany and Poland than for other bloc countries in providing information of interest to M/AG.

25X1A2g However, [REDACTED] reports do provide information on CEMA operations and policy of interest to all Soviet bloc countries not obtainable by overt collection. In addition, overall studies on agricultural production and commodity production estimates for the Bloc done by foreign governments have been received. Two useful reports of this type were: [REDACTED] The 1956 Grain Harvest in Soviet Bloc; and [REDACTED] Agricultural Production and Food Supply in the Soviet Bloc.

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II. M/AG support [REDACTED]

M/AG frequently renders services to the [REDACTED] Most important among these services are current evaluations of [REDACTED] reports, briefings for chiefs of divisions [REDACTED] suggestions for psychological warfare or propaganda, furnishing a continuous supply of personnel for [REDACTED] and providing general and specific guides for covert collection.

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III. East Germany

Reports are of particular importance in providing agricultural economic information on East Germany. In general these reports are very useful and provide an excellent check on the validity of published official data. By far the best single report was [REDACTED] "Status of Agriculture and Proposed Measures for the Increase of Agr. Production". This report was really a critical appraisal of agriculture in East Germany prepared for use by the Soviet advisor to the East German Ministry of Agriculture. This 37 page report clearly, concisely, and we believe accurately, analyzes the problems in the agricultural economy and points out the fiction upon which socialist planning is based. The report, made available to other ORR divisions and ONE has been highly praised by many consumers. Several additional series [REDACTED] reports too numerous to cite here merit praise. These reports generally were in direct response to existing requirements and frequently originated from a defector, who had previously been an active agent.

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██████ reports received for Poland fell into two basic source categories.

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██████ which give local agricultural information; and ██████

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████████████████████ deal with changes in economic and

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political policies affecting agriculture.

25X1A2g ██████ has been useful in providing information on many facets

of agriculture, e.g., Machine Tractor Station operations, Compulsory delivery

quotas and State Farms. Example: ██████ Facilities for Training

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Personnel in the Management of Producers' Cooperatives and Government

Agricultural Machine Stations. ██████ has been very important

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for providing behind the scenes discussion and giving the reasons for

agricultural policy changes during the past 1½ years. Examples are: ██████

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Report by Jedrychowski on the Polish Internal Economic Situation as of

November 1956; and ██████ Speech of Wladyslaw Gomulka to the Meeting of

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the Voivodship Committee First Secretaries on 23 November 1956.

V. Rumania:

25X1A2g ██████ reports have provided very limited coverage of the agricultural sector.

For food supply and agricultural industry data two reports have recently

provided M/AG with useful information. These were: ██████ Light

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Industry Production Program for 1958; and ██████ Current Economic

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Situation in Rumania.

VI. Albania and Bulgaria - Of no value.

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VII. Hungary

reports account for only a small part of the usable information which 25X1A2g
comes to M/AG. Even this modest importance has declined during the past two
years because of the large increase in the release of information by the
Hungarian government. reports contribute more to the coverage of foreign 25X1A2g
trade than to any other subject category, and this particular reporting
represents practically the only example of significant clandestine support.

VIII. Czechoslovakia

Good information, although dated, has been available on the Food Industry
for Czechoslovakia.

IX. USSR

Upswings analyses of the Soviet agricultural situation are always of
interest and sometimes helpful. The 1956 Grain Harvest in 25X1A2g
the Eastern Bloc - Part I, the Soviet Union, April 1957.

X. Communist China

Very little useful information, other than some reports on agricultural
prices, is obtained from reports. 25X1A2g

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